

State Baptist students appoint 66 to missions

The Mississippi Baptist Student Union, through its missions committee, has appointed 66 college and university students to student missions positions in Mississippi, the United States, and around the world.

Couples renew marriage vows

Twelve couples took part in a marriage renewal service at Priceville Baptist Church, Tupelo, Jan. 3, following the morning worship service. They ranged from one month of marriage to 39 years of marriage.

"This was a first for me, as well as those of our church," said Robert L. Daniel, pastor. "It was a real spiritual service for those who took part and for those who witnessed it."

After several months of preparation, the special wedding music and order of service were ready.

Karen Daniel and Leona and Terry Ramey sang wedding songs. The pastor asked couples to stand before the altar to take part in the renewal service he had planned. After the Scripture reading, he spoke of the duties of husbands and wives to love God, each other, and family.

The couples were asked to repeat vows similar to ones they had repeated at their first ceremony. These were vows of renewal and commitment. The pastor and his wife joined together in lighting the unity candle.

Names of the students, along with their pictures and places of assignment will be printed in the Baptist Record after the students have accepted the appointments made for them by the student missions committee.

Committee members include Mary McMillan, Mississippi State, chairman; John Mars, Jones Junior College; Walter McWhorter, Mississippi College; Lisa Hamilton, Meridian Junior College; Ricky Kelly, Delta State; Susan Puckett, BSU director, Blue Mountain College; and Wil McCall, BSU director, University of Southern Mississippi. Ex officio members are Tim Glaze, Mississippi College, state BSU president; and Lloyd Luncford, associate director of Student Work for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Luncford said that only 59 mission slots were originally set, but "due to the number of qualified students, we picked up seven extra positions."

Most of the students will work a ten week term of service this summer, alongside career missionaries of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

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Competition ahead

FCC rejects lottery scheme for low power TV licenses

By Greg Warner

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Applications for 106 low-power television stations by the American Christian Television System (ACTS) owned by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission apparently will not be determined by lottery.

The Federal Communications Commission voted 5 to 1, Feb. 8, against using the lottery as a means of determining between two or more applicants competing for the same area.

The lottery was proposed by Congress as a way to speed up the process

to license low-power stations, particularly to determine between two or more applicants in the same area.

But the FCC, on the recommendation of its staff, decided the lottery was an "unworkable" solution to the problem, since the Congressional action requires the commission to screen applicants and give preference to groups under-represented in broadcasting, such as minorities.

It appears the FCC will retain some form of comparative hearing method for licensing low-power stations.

"We don't feel the statute as it was passed (by Congress) allows us to make rules that would permit a practical lottery for anything," said Commissioner Anne Jones. "It sounded as though we would have to go all the way through a comparative hearing before having a lottery."

The Southern Baptist Radio and

Television Commission, in a legal brief filed with Federal Communications Commission in December, opposed any lottery that would not show preference to minorities and non-commercial applicants. Most other comments to the FCC were opposed to the lottery.

The FCC has sent the lottery proposal back to Congress but it is not known what further action Congress will take.

Although the FCC would reconsider a lottery if the restrictions are lifted, Jones said it is not likely ever to be used for low-power stations. "This probably means we will not have a lottery for a low-power television," she concluded.

The final rules for low-power will outline how the licenses will be awarded, the stations one applicant can own, and what technical regula-

tions will govern low-power broadcasting.

Jones said that while it might take several years for the FCC to distribute all of the licenses, there are no other known obstacles to awarding the uncontested applications, which might be accomplished by the end of the year. It is estimated that 1,200 of the 6,500 applications on file are uncontested, including approximately 75 of the proposed stations for ACTS.

Jones also added she expects the FCC to put no limits on the number of low-power stations that can be owned by one applicant, although a 15-station limit was originally suggested.

According to information from Charles Roden, a vice president at the Radio and Television Commission, in addition to channel 46 license applied for in Jackson by ACTS, another or-

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James Berthelot of the Baptist Sunday School Board talks with participants during a share session at a Sunday School

Adult Growth Seminar, Feb. 9, at First Baptist Church, Pascagoula.

Enroll the lost

Statistics show those without Christ are not in Bible study

By Tim Nicholas

With statistics provided by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Mose Dangerfield can show that only one in 275 people not enrolled in Bible study will be saved, while one of three enrolled in Bible study will be saved.

Dangerfield, consultant for adult Sunday School work for Mississippi Baptists, said the obvious conclusion is that the best way to get people to make decisions for Christ is to get them enrolled in Bible study.

The sad part of the statistical analysis is that though eight out of 10 decisions for salvation are by people enrolled in Bible study, 98 percent of Southern Baptist church adult Sunday School classes have no lost people enrolled.

What is the handle? "We simply need to enroll more lost people in Bible study," said Dangerfield.

To achieve that end, the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is holding a series of seminars for Sunday School leaders on adult growth. The series is scheduled in 11 places between now and May 10. Four sessions have already been held in the southern part of the state.

Seminar speaker for some of the first sessions was James Berthelot, an adult Sunday School specialist at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. He discussed four specific projects designed to help increase adult Sunday School enrollment: Adult Start-A-Class, Powerpacking an Adult Class, Adult Growth Week, and Powerpacking Homebound Adults.

Adult Growth Week, according to Berthelot is a two evening pastor-led session each spring to plan for growth in the fall. Of the need for the planning to be pastor-led, "No program in any church," said Berthelot, "will ever do anything unless the pastor says we need it."

The Adult Start-A-Class emphasis has been on the books for five years so far. And Berthelot said it is in promotional materials at least through 1986. This emphasis consists of beginning a new class with a teacher, outreach leader, and two group leaders—and with no fewer than these four. "If you decide you can do it with just a teacher, it won't work," said Berthelot. Besides, he said, if one team member is feeling down, he or she will

have three others who will likely be able to pull him or her up.

Berthelot said another term for splitting a class, perhaps more palatable, would be "regrouping for growth."

He said that the first mass mailing to every Southern Baptist church will take place in November. It will consist of a "Powerpacking" kit for adult Sunday School classes. The emphasis includes setting goals such as increasing enrollment by one adult per class per month, and motivating members for personal witnessing.

Berthelot said that, though it is not yet officially funded, the Sunday

School Board plans to have a "powerpacking" emphasis via satellite hookup at 100 Holiday Inns across the country, inviting selected leaders from churches.

The Homebound "powerpacking" emphasis deals with providing a special ministry for those who are unable to attend Sunday School regularly. This would be for all ages who are handicapped, aged, and for those who work for the physically handicapped.

Berthelot said that a church cannot hire a staff big enough to reach adults. But the laypeople can do it by attending regularly and inviting others to go. "You go as a satisfied customer," he said.

Doctrine previews set for March 29-30

Ten Baptist doctrine preview seminars to be held March 29 and 30 will focus on the book, *The Biblical View of the Family*, written by William M. Pinson, Jr., president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

Each of the meetings will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue until 11:30 a.m.

Five will meet on March 29 at Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Gulfport; First Church, McComb; First Church, Senatobia; Immanuel Church, Cleveland; and Fairview Church, Columbus.

Five will meet on March 30 at Fifteenth Avenue Baptist Church, Meridian; Main Street Church, Hattiesburg; First Church, Winona; Robinson Street Church, Jackson; and West Jackson Street Church, Tupelo.

Seminar leaders will include Harry Lucenay of Hattiesburg (at Gulfport and Meridian); Odean Puckett of Natchez (at McComb and Hattiesburg); James Richardson of Madison (at Senatobia and Winona); Ed McDaniel of Greenwood (at Cleveland and Jackson); and Hugh L. Poole of Macon (at Columbus and Tupelo).

Some questions this study will address are: "What are some of the guidelines that the Bible provides for each member of a family to relate to other members? What are the four primary roles and relationships within

a family? What specific actions should a family engage in to meet the spiritual needs of its members? Do families need to establish new priorities in their lives?"

The seminars are being sponsored

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Memorial to host deaf needs clinic

MEMPHIS—More than 100 health care professionals from Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas are expected to attend a workshop on the needs and problems of deaf patients March 11 at Baptist Memorial Hospital's Medical Center.

Marshall L. Koonce, program director, said the workshop is aimed at all members of medical staffs and other health care workers who come into contact with hearing-impaired patients.

A faculty of 16 persons will identify barriers which lower the quality of health care available to the deaf, describe communication problems and discuss various methods of improving communications with patients who have hearing problems.

Registration information is available from Ken Burch, 899 Madison, Memphis, Tenn., 38146.

FMB sets groundbreaking for center, promotes David Mayhall

By Bob Stanley

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has assigned Executive Vice President Bill O'Brien the task of raising an additional \$7 million needed to build its new missionary orientation center near Richmond.

The action, announced at the board meeting Feb. 9, means O'Brien will be relieved temporarily of some of his duties but will continue as executive vice president, President R. Keith Parks said.

Ground breaking for the new orientation center is scheduled for May 11, with completion in 1984. The multiple-use facility will be used for debriefings of furloughing missionaries and for orientation of both missionaries and long-term volunteers.

The center will be built without using either Cooperative Program or Lottie Moon Christmas offering funds. So far, some \$2 million has either been pledged or received toward the estimated cost of \$9 million.

Ray Spence, chairman of the board's development council, said the group will continue to look for a full-time development director who can lead "the largest Protestant denomi-

nation and one of the wealthiest" in Bold Mission Thrust, the convention-wide program to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with all people of the world by the year 2000.

Spence said the primary job of the new development officer will be to seek "over-and-above" contributions

from wealthy Southern Baptists who can be challenged to invest in Bold Missions.

Overseas baptisms up

In other actions, the board reported a 15.7 percent increase in overseas baptisms last year, defended its

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Baptist instrumental clinic resumes at Broadmoor

A Mississippi Baptist Instrumental Clinic is scheduled for April 17 at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson. This will be the first such clinic held in two years.

Coordinator for the clinic will be John Hanbery, who is director of bands and assistant professor of music at Mississippi College.

The clinic is for ministers of music or instrumental directors who are interested in beginning an ensemble. Also instrumentalists may participate whether or not they are a part of an

organized church ensemble. All participants must be in ninth grade or older, and into their third year of experience with their instrument.

All music will be furnished by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board which is sponsoring the event. Timpani, bass drum, xylophone, snare drums, cymbals, and chimes will be furnished.

The clinic begins at 8 a.m. April 17 with registration. It dismisses at 4 that afternoon.

Pre-registration is encouraged. There will be a \$5 per person registration fee. For more information, write Church Music Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, phone 968-3866.

Annie Armstrong Offering touched 200 Korean missions

By Don Kim

(Don Kim, pastor of Berendo Street Baptist Church in Los Angeles, Calif., is second vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention.)

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Since 1957, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions has had special significance for my wife, Eisook An, and me. We were the first appointed home missionaries to Koreans in America. Our ministry was made possible because of gifts from Southern Baptists to the Annie Armstrong offering. Upon our graduation from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, the Lord opened a way for us to go to California to work among Koreans and Internationals in Los Angeles.

The first Korean language mission was founded in Los Angeles. It was named Berendo Street Korean Baptist Church. In the 23 years of our ministry at Berendo Street, the church has grown from 31 members to 1,200. Our budget this year is a half million dollars.

The church has sponsored 13 missions and has trained more than 20 ministers. Today, in some way, the Berendo Street Baptist Church has touched at least 200 other Korean missions or units throughout the country.

Had it not been for the Annie Armstrong offering, this may not have happened. When my wife and I came to Los Angeles, we were supported by the Language Pastoral Assistance plan of the Home Mission Board because our church was not self-supporting. Language Pastoral Assistance is funded through the Home Mission Board

through gifts to the Annie Armstrong offering.

Our church is a result of the concern Southern Baptists have for supporting missions work in America. The theme for the 1982 Week of Prayer for Home Missions is "The World Is Here." It is especially timely because today America is a land of diverse peoples from many backgrounds and cultures. All need to know

Jesus. The prayers of Southern Baptists strengthen missions in our land.

We are thankful for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering that Southern Baptists give to support home missions. We know firsthand how the offering helps. It is urgent that all Southern Baptists give to reach this year's goal of \$22 million so that progress in bringing our land to Christ can be made.

"ACTUALLY, I'M ACTIVE IN JUST SUCH A PROGRAM. IT'S CALLED HOME MISSIONS."



"... a man was sent to our hill country from God"—his name was Ewart A. Autry

By J. Woodrow Fuller

Preacher Autry lived in Mississippi with his helpmate, Lola M. Autry in quaint Whippoorwill Valley, Route 1, Hickory Flat, until his death in September, 1981. He was a third generation Baptist preacher in this beautiful hill country. The lives of these three preachers covered most of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Ewart A. Autry was qualified by training and talent to be a pastor of either rural or city churches. He had his choice. After 13 years as pastor of a growing church in Memphis, Tenn., he made his decision in 1940 to turn his face to his native hills of northern Mississippi and a significant ministry with rural churches.

In 1941, Lola M. Lineberry, a Christian teacher in the Memphis School System, became his wife and helpmate in a ministry among the people and country churches of north Mississippi.

In the hill country in December of 1940, he was called as pastor of Bluff Springs Baptist Church. In 1941, he added Philadelphia Baptist Church in Lafayette County to his pastoral ministry. He was at Bluff Springs for 15 years and at Philadelphia, 12 years.

In 1943, Autry was called as pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church in Benton County. Pine Grove, an early pastorate for him before he accepted the Memphis church in 1928, was the church nearest to his home in Whippoorwill Valley. The Pine Grove pastorate covered 33 years, including four years there full-time. He retired from the ministry in 1974, due to increasing physical problems.

During the lean years of the 1940's, Preacher Autry pastored seven country churches at the same time. He was willing and they were flexible, so they worked it out together and he did a good work with each congregation. These churches were: Shady Grove in Tippah County, Bay Springs in Lafayette County, Bethany in Marshall County, Beulah in Union County, (the Country Church which he organized in a barn loft), and Pine Grove.

When Ewart A. and Lola M. Autry set up housekeeping in his father's long abandoned homeplace in 1941, doors of personal spiritual ministry began to open to them. Two of the earliest of these ministries were to conduct the funeral services for the dead, and perform the wedding ceremonies for the young people and for all who needed him. Available and willing preachers were scarce in this hill country except in county seat towns. The people also seemed to prefer a preacher who lived among them and identified with them in their needs and ways of life.

The most important and significant part of this man's life, who turned his face toward home country as a field of ministry, was among the churches often and long without pastors who needed a man sent from God to preach, fellowship, and challenge them as he walked among them sharing always in their joys and sorrows.

There are reasons why both the urban and county seat town churches receive more publicity than the much larger number of rural and open country churches in the Southern Baptist Convention. The heroic story of these rural churches needs to be told. This article is an attempt to tell a part of that story as it relates to one pastor.

One reason the Ewart Autrys' have been able to live and survive through the years of their ministry with these country churches is that they learned to help support themselves. The Autrys were bi-vocational and yet always put the churches and their needs first. They have both achieved recognition as writers. Brother Autry was a writer for such publications as *Readers Digest*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Field and Stream*, and many others. He wrote several books including: *GHOST HOUND OF THUNDER VALLEY* which was given the Dodd-Mead Teacher Librarian award. In 1964, he was selected as Mississippi Rural Minister of the Year by Emory University and the *Progressive Farmer*.

Lola M. Autry has also written articles for national magazines. Her book, *52 DEVOTIONALS FOR PRIMARY CHILDREN*, was published by Baker Book House. She collaborated with her husband in writing *BIBLE PUPPET PLAYS* also published by Baker. She became a professional photographer in order to illustrate her husband's magazine articles. She is an excellent musician and served through the years as her husband's secretary and business manager. Since his death, she continues to live in Whippoorwill Valley serving Pine Grove church as pianist.

Two Autry sons are outstanding in literary and publication fields. Ronald has been for many years with Associated Press News Bureau in New York and Atlanta and is Bureau Chief for the Associated Press for Georgia and Alabama. James A. has been editor-in-chief of *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine and presently serves as vice-president and general manager of magazines, Meredith Publishing Company, Des Moines, Iowa.

Another Autry son, Jerry, died at 17 of a rare brain fungus, two weeks before his scheduled high school graduation. The two youngest children are twins, Martha and Lanny. Martha is Mrs. Ray Crawford, a high school science teacher in Blue Mountain High School, Blue Mountain, Miss. She is pianist in Palmer Baptist Church and a leader in both Sunday School and Church Training. Lanny owns and operates the Mid-South Forestry Company in New Albany. He is a deacon in First Baptist Church, New Albany, serves as Church Training director, and sings bass in the church choir.

Once Preacher Autry was himself stricken with an illness of pneumonia. It was a time of cold winds, rain and high water. One of his church members called and asked if he would conduct a funeral service for a family member. The preacher got out of bed, put on his rubber boots and walked through water and mud for a mile and a half to a neighbor's house on the hard surface road where his car was parked. There he changed shoes and went to the church for the funeral service. His churches and the people came first with him.

Another strong and beautiful glimpse into the life of this country preacher was revealed after the death of Jerry. Autry had been invited to deliver the baccalaureate sermon for the class of which his son was to be co-valedictorian. No one knows how he was humanly able to do it, but he preached the sermon and received Jerry's diploma and honors in behalf of the family.

In 1979, Ewart and Lola M. Autry co-authored a book *DON'T LOOK BACK, MAMA*, which is autobiographical. Names of churches and people with the exception of family members, have been changed. The book covers their lives and ministry, 1941-1978. There is a beautiful mixture of joy and sadness, humor and pathos, as the lives of the Autrys mingle with those of the people and churches they seek to serve.

The writer, with gratitude to God for the good news of Christ, and for the Autrys and many others like them, has secured permission to quote from the final page of their book, *DON'T LOOK BACK MAMA*:

"And thus the day of my fiftieth anniversary closed. I felt a tightening in my throat as the last echoes, died away. Soon the crowds were gone. Lola and I were left alone on the church grounds. Alone with memories of happy hours when the house had echoes of the footsteps of people walking the aisles to give themselves to the Lord. Sad hours, when people had brought their loved ones there for the last rites before the grave. Then again, happy hours when young couples had walked the aisles to be married and begin life together.

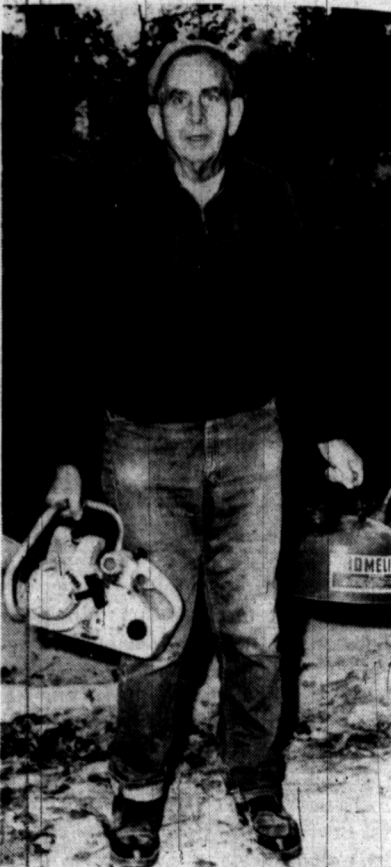
"We stood there a long time. Lola's eyes were misty. I placed a finger under her chin and tilted her head. I asked, 'Do you remember what the children said that rainy night when you were wading the

as student director in Missouri. 'Vaught called me and asked if I'd be interested in being his successor,' Roselle explains. 'A move like that wasn't unusual in those days.' No longer struggling with his commitment, Roselle accepted the call to full-time student ministries.

Since that move 41 years ago, Roselle also has been city-wide Baptist student director for Nashville, Tenn.; local student director at the University of Missouri-Columbia and Auburn University, Auburn, Ala.; and then for 15 years state Baptist student secretary for Tennessee.

"As I look back over the years I think the thing I have enjoyed most has been my involvement with students on the local campus. To watch them grow and develop was exciting for me," he says.

(Gail Rothwell writes for the BSSB.)



The woodcutter, Autry, a naturalist, hunter, and fisherman, liked big fires in the fireplace.

water ahead of the car? She said, 'I do, they said, 'Don't look back, Mama.'

"Four years from that day, we stood in the same spot. On that day, I had resigned and retired after 54 years of pastoring churches. The crowd had gone and we were alone. There was a silence except for the walking of a small wind among the cemetery cedars and the drifting of a few early leaves across the ground. I reached over and took Lola's hand, 'Pals forever and a day?' I questioned. 'Pals forever and a day, she affirmed softly.'

"We took off for the car—a grandpa and a grandma going happily together, knowing that whatever was in the past was all right and that we were ready to face whatever might come in the future."

God's book reads in John 1:6 "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John." I join the people and churches of my native Mississippi hills in saying, "There was a man sent back to our hill country from God whose name was Ewart A. Autry."

(J. Woodrow Fuller is retired Director of Missions Division, Florida Baptist Convention. He was born in the red clay hills of north Mississippi, the first of six children. His birth was attended by a country doctor and took place in a log cabin built by his father. Perhaps this is one reason he has a deep interest in the life of a talented and unique pastor who served these rural churches of over 40 years in north Mississippi.)

Baptists respond to Brazilian flood

PETROPOLIS, Brazil (BP)—When torrential rains and flooding struck Petropolis, Brazil, in December, local Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries were ready.

After the first night of flooding, the 1,200-member First Baptist Church, led by Southern Baptist missionary Harold Renfrow, opened a mission church building to house homeless families, the first relief shelter anywhere in the city.

Flooding and landslides left more than 100 dead and 5,000 homeless in the Brazilian city of about a quarter-million people, located in the southeastern state of Rio de Janeiro.

Renfrow and his wife, Nona, live in Niteroi, about 50 miles away, but were in Petropolis to conduct a prayer meeting. "Water got five feet deep on the main street of the town," Renfrow reported. "We could not leave the city. All roads were blocked."

The missionary couple, both Missouri natives, found safety in a hotel for the night.

Renfrow opened the Villa Independencia Baptist Mission the next morning, and more than 200 people crowded into the basement and meeting rooms.

"We set up a soup kitchen and started putting clothes on the wet people," Renfrow said. Church members distributed other provisions collected by the young people of the congregation for Christmas charity.

The mission church housed flood victims for three days, until they could be transferred to hastily prepared city shelters. In the meantime, medical workers treated those needing attention. Renfrow himself helped evacuate families from homes threatened by landslides.

After the transfer, municipal social workers requested volunteers from the church to assist in counseling grief-stricken flood victims. Deacons from both First church and the mission congregation responded. Renfrow reported a number of spiritual conversions and requests for baptism.

Heavy rain struck Petropolis again the following week, bringing more death and destruction to the city and surrounding mountainous region. Renfrow estimated that 15,000 people statewide were left homeless.



Autry relaxes with his harmonica.

FMB sets groundbreaking for center, promotes David Mayhall

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policies on use of world hunger and relief funds, and named two new associates to area directors for west Africa and Europe.

Overseas Vice President Charles Bryan reported that churches related to Southern Baptist mission work in 95 countries baptized 127,337 persons in 1981, surpassing the previous year's record of 110,032 by 15.7 percent.

Hunger funds

Board member Marks Cortis of Winston-Salem, N. C., urged the board to do a better job explaining why interest from world hunger funds awaiting allocation is put into the general fund to offset administrative costs in Southern Baptists worldwide hunger and relief program.

While affirming the need for proper interpretation, Board Chairman Travis Berry of Plano, Texas, said such a program obviously cannot be administered without costs. "I have some very strong feelings that our stewardship has been excellent at this point," he said.

Parks said some who criticize the use of this interest to offset administrative costs are unaware that many of the major relief groups "take 25 percent off the top for administration and promotion costs" before sending the remainder to the needy.

The board guarantees that 100 percent of Southern Baptist hunger and

relief contributions is used for these purposes overseas. In addition to meeting immediate hunger and relief needs, the board is initiating long-range community development programs which will "creatively and effectively channel the backlog of funds that has emerged" because of record Southern Baptist giving, Parks said.

Board members and staff have been getting inquiries about the use of this interest and about a \$4 million backlog that developed when world hunger giving reached its peak in the latter months of 1980.

Mayhall named

David N. Mayhall, a missionary teacher at the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary, Paynesward City, Liberia, was named associate for English-speaking west Africa. He will take over part of the responsibility formerly handled by Billy L. Bulington, who beginning March 1 will be associate for non-English speaking west Africa. Both work under the supervision of John Mills, director for west Africa.

G. Keith Parker, associate professor of practical theology at Baptist Theological Seminary, Ruschlikon, Switzerland, will assist Isam E. Balenger, director for Europe and the Middle East, as the on-the-field associate responsible for missionaries in Europe, assuming his new duties in July.

Mayhall will work with missionaries in Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria. Bulington will work with missionaries in the French-speaking countries of Senegal, Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Togo, Benin and Niger Republic and Spanish-speaking Equatorial Guinea.

A native of Liberty, Miss., Mayhall was a missionary to Nigeria from 1950 to 1973. He resigned in 1973 and was reappointed in 1979 to Liberia, where he also works as a general evangelist.

He is married to the former Ollie Mae Ware, who grew up in Magee, Miss., and they have four daughters. He is a graduate of Mississippi Col-

Central Hills seeks staffers for summer

The Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is now accepting applications for Royal Ambassador summer camp staff and operational staff at Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Kosciusko.

The department will need college students to work as activity instructors, counselors, in operations and high school students to serve as staff assistants. The employment period begins May 31 and concludes August 20.

Available positions include counselors, activity instructors (archery, riflery, lifeguard, lake front, horses), farm management and grounds and maintenance.

Interested persons may write or call for applications; Paul Harrell, Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205 (968-3934) or Dan West, manager of Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Box 237, Kosciusko, Miss., 39090 (289-9730).

lege, Clinton, and holds the master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Before appointment, he served churches in Underwood, Ind., and Pascagoula, Miss. From 1972-79 he was associational director of missions in Greenville, Miss.

Postage crisis

Parks briefed the board on the financial crisis many state Baptist papers are facing after a postal subsidy to nonprofit mailers was eliminated Jan. 10.

He urged board members and other Southern Baptists to stand behind their state papers in this time when postal rates have more than doubled for most publications.

East Indonesia

The board voted to establish the East Indonesia Baptist Mission as a second mission in Indonesia with work centered in Manado, on the island of Sulawesi.

Missionaries will be working with a "very missions-minded group of Baptists" located on the large Indonesian island northeast of Java, according to Bill Wakefield, board director for south and southeast Asia. The group has missionaries on the northern island of Sumatra and on Kalimantan, the lower portion of the island of Borneo.

The captain will speak at seminar

Bob Keeshan, better known as television's "Captain Kangaroo," will speak on families and television at the annual seminar of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission March 22-24 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Keeshan, who earlier had been invited to speak at the "Strengthening Families" seminar, originally declined the invitation because of a recent heart attack.

Keeshan, who created "Captain Kangaroo" in 1955 and is an innovator in children's programming, has now accepted the invitation because of improved health.

For more information on the seminar, contact the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tenn., 37219.

Paramaribo, Surinam

Surinamese Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries recently mapped a three-year evangelistic strategy to double the membership of the four churches of the United Baptist Organization of Surinam. Mission Service Corps volunteers Loyd Corder, retired Home Mission Board staff member, and his wife, Trudy, led sessions on the workings of Baptist associations. Corder's ventriloquist dummy, "Joe the Baptist," entertained the 27 strategy session participants.



Aleksander Kircun, Jr.

Pastor will return to Poland; says "The Lord gives me courage . . ."

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP)—A Polish pastor studying in the United States said here he will return to Poland despite martial law and threats of a Soviet crackdown.

Aleksander Kircun Jr. arrived in the United States in September to study for six months at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pa., leaving his wife and two children in Poland.

Kircun had not heard from his family from the inception of martial law in December until Jan. 12, when he received word they were all right and were receiving adequate food through relief efforts of German Baptists.

While attending the Baptist International Conference on Theological Education at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Kircun said, "The Lord

gives me courage and strength and hope."

Kircun, pastor of the 160-member Baptist church in Wroclaw, the third largest Baptist church in Poland, said he expects to return to Poland in March.

Citing his family and his ministry as reasons for his return, Kircun said, "Material things are not the most important things in life and even freedom in the world sense may not be what the Christian should look after."

Kircun said he believes being a Christian should be costly. "If you are a Christian, it must be shown and it must be seen. You must not always be on the side of those who win and those who have it better. This is how we should approach Christianity in a secular world."

In his church, Kircun said the recent beginning of an all-age Bible school, similar to Sunday School, has caused the congregation to "come alive."

"For the last several years a conviction has been growing that our people are not any more a people of the Bible," said Kircun. Eight groups of 20 members each now meet for Bible study one hour before Sunday worship.

Also, the church works closely with five smaller congregations. "We always have some kind of mission station," he said.

Before he left Poland, Kircun baptized five persons. He recently received word that nine others have recently been baptized.

"The church grows slowly, but it does grow," said Kircun.

SBC student leader to retire March 31

By Gail Rothwell

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Charles Roselle's introduction to Southern Baptist student ministries came long before his official duties began in 1941.

Roselle, who retires March 31 as secretary of National Student Ministries of the Baptist Sunday School Board, grew up one block from the Central Missouri State University campus in Warrensburg. There campus life became a part of him as he came in contact with the college students his father taught in Sunday School.

Roselle graduated from Central Missouri State where he was active in Baptist Student Union, then he earned a master's degree in mathematics at Louisiana State University. While at the University of Illinois, working on his doctorate, W. O. Vaught resigned

Blankenships leave Libya, arrive safely in Morocco

TANGIER, Morocco (BP)—The Harold Blankenships, Southern Baptists' only missionary family stationed in Libya, left the country Feb. 7 and arrived safely in Morocco Feb. 13.

Their decision to leave Libya was made in December at the urging of the American government. Although their departure was delayed by the process of securing exit visas, they had no trouble actually leaving the country, Blankenship said by telephone from Tangier, Feb. 15.

He, his wife, Dorothy, and their 14-year-old son, Franklin, flew from Libya to London, then on to Tangier. "We thank the Lord we were able to get in the country (in 1965) and thankful we were able to leave," Blankenship said. "We have appreciated the prayers of Southern Baptists."

Blankenship has been pastor of the English-language Baptist Church in Tripoli, Libya, since missionary appointment 16 years ago. The couple has been transferred temporarily to Morocco where they will serve until their next furlough begins in about a year and a half.

Baptist doctrine . . .

(Continued from page 1)

by the Church Training department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. "Families are important. Families need to be strengthened by following God's will for family life as set forth in the Bible," said Evelyn George, consultant, Church Training department. "Pastors and others interested in leading a study of this book are encouraged to attend one of the seminars."

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Conferences speak for home missions

World Missions Conferences are designed to inform the local church on the expenditures of funds they have given to missions, according to Hollis Bryant, consultant in the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The missions funds go to associations, the Cooperative Program, state missions, and the home and foreign special offerings. Missionaries themselves tell about their work.

"These conferences," says Bryant, "are Southern Baptists' greatest opportunity of speaking to the local church."

Each Baptist association, according to agreements with the Brotherhood Commission and the Home and Foreign Mission Boards, may participate in a World Missions Conference every five years. Some associations opt not to participate. However, Bryant says that Mississippi has a higher percentage of churches, associations, and individuals participating in World Missions Conferences than any other state convention.

Two years before an association is eligible for a WMC, Bryant writes the director of missions who get approval from the associational executive

committee for participation. The Brotherhood Commission sends the HMB and FMB the necessary information about how many home and foreign missionaries will be needed and then arrangements are handled locally. Bryant arranges for state missions representatives, usually employees of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Ordinarily, the association pays for expenses of the missions guests.

"Every church in the association — large or small — has the opportunity to have home, foreign, associational and state missions personnel with the World Missions Conference," says Bryant.

Four World Missions Conferences held in February in Mississippi are promoting the Home Missions Emphasis, which is a major campaign to promote the cause of home missions. These conferences are in George, Greene, Panola, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, and Bolivar associations. Conferences other than these will be held in 1982. They are Carroll, Montgomery, Northwest, Grenada, Yalobusha, Mississippi, Perry, Quitman, Riverside, Simpson, and Washington associations.

20 Lauderdale churches campaign to enlarge

By Judd Allen, Consultant, Sunday School Department

The Lauderdale Baptist Association will participate in a director-led enlargement campaign, Feb. 27-March 3, 1982. There are 20 churches which will have a guest director leading them in this enlargement effort.

All of the other churches of the association have been invited to take advantage of the campaign emphasis and to share in now or later a pastoral enlargement effort.

The Lauderdale Association, Leon Young, director of missions, and the state Sunday School Department, Bryant M. Cummings, director, have been working jointly in planning and preparing for the enlargement campaign.

James Webster, minister of education, Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, is campaign director.

Warren churches look at interfaith witness

Warren Baptist Association recently held an Interfaith Witness Conference and it was an overwhelming success, reports Lavon Hatten, director of missions for Warren Association. The conference was held January 17-19.

Peter Chen from the Home Mission Board spoke on The Way International and Eastern Religions. Hollis V. Bryant from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board spoke on Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses. And Eunice Bryant, an MBCB approved worker, lead in conferences on The Unification Church.

The three spoke in 12 churches on Sunday during Sunday School, Morning Worship, Church Training, and Evening Worship. The attendance was 1,520 in the twelve churches. Monday and Tuesday nights two-hour conferences were held at First Baptist Church in Vicksburg. The attendance for those two nights was 178, making the overall conference attendance average 1,700.

G. Ray Ming and Lavon Hatten had planned and promoted the conferences extensively with the pastors and people of Warren Association prior to the conferences. Many said that the engagements in the churches on Sunday were informative and caused them to attend the conferences on Monday and Tuesday nights.

Interfaith Witness Conferences have a three-fold purpose: (1) To help Baptist Christians know who the cults are, (2) Major doctrines and how they compare to Baptist doctrines, and (3) How we as Baptists can effectively witness to the cults. This purpose is being fulfilled in Mississippi this year through conferences, such as the one held in Warren Association, to discuss such topics as Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Eastern Religions, Moonies, The Way International, and World Wide Church of God.

Other associations holding conferences in 1982 are Scott, Pike, Grenada, Carroll, Montgomery, Union County, Lamar, Holmes, Alcorn, Golden Triangle, Attala, Yazoo, Tishomingo, Copiah, Lincoln, and Jones County Junior College. These conferences will be lead by Gary Leazer, Lloyd Whyte, Peter Chen, Hollis Bryant, Tom Rayburn, Eddie Prince, Mrs. Eunice Bryant, and Mrs. Tillie Gullett.

If there are any questions concerning these conferences contact the associational director of missions or moderator, or for Jones County Junior College contact John Sumner, BSU director. Any church or association that wishes to hold an Interfaith Witness Conference may contact Hollis Bryant in the Cooperative Missions Department at the Baptist Building for more information.

FCC rejects

(Continued from page 1)

ganization has applied for a license for channel 53 in Jackson, and another group has asked for channel 32 in Yazoo City. Roden said that apparently these two other applications were made after the freeze of the application procedure last April. He said that other applications might be accepted by the FCC depending on what rules it sets up for the licensing.

Roden said that the tentative procedure for development of the ACTS network will be for ACTS to retain licenses and not traffic them. "We plan to enter partnership with local ACTS groups," said Roden. Though these will be non-profit stations, no prohibitions are expected to keep advertising off the stations. The commission, said Roden, plans to aid in supplying programming to these stations.

He said the FCC now expects to have all the licensing applications processed and distributed perhaps by 1985. (Warner writes for the R-TV Commission.)

Mississippi Baptist Activities

- Mar. 1 Man and Boy Rallies; 6:30-8:30 p.m. FBC, Coldwater/FBC, Brandon/FBC, West Point/Calvary BC, Tupelo/FBC, McComb/FBC, Collins/N. Greenwood BC, Greenwood/Forest, BC, Forest/FBC, Biloxi (BRO)
- Mar. 1-2 Workshop for Ministers With Youth Responsibilities; Camp Garaywa, Clinton; 10 a.m., 1st-4 p.m., 2nd (Youth Comm.)
- Mar. 5-7 Queen's Court; Camp Garaywa, Clinton; 5 p.m., 5th-Noon, 7th (WMU)



Man-Boy Rallies major on bold mission projects

The series of nine area Man and Boy Rallies all on March 1, in nine cities scattered throughout the state of Mississippi should make one rally within driving distance of every interested man and boy.

Purpose of these rallies is to acquaint Baptist men and boys with bold mission projects and to motivate them to choose and participate in a project.

Each rally will begin with a fellowship meal (cost \$2 per person) and will follow with the program. Each rally begins at 6:30 p.m. and participants must contact the host church or center prior to March 1 in order to make reservations.

Following is a schedule of cities, places, and speakers for each rally: Coldwater, First Baptist Church, James Smith of Tupelo; Tupelo, Calvary, Tom Sumrall who is missionary to Brazil; Greenwood, North Green-

wood Church, Howard B. Bickers, Jr. who is associate professor of history and missions at Mid-America Seminary;

West Point, First Church, Larry Tyner who is public affairs manager with Weyerhaeuser Company; Brandon, First Church, Ed Trott who is missionary to Brazil; Forest, Forest Church, Mark Alexander who is missionary to Argentina and serving as coordinator of Mississippi Partners with the Rio de la Plata;

McComb, First Church, R. T. Buckley who is missionary to Bangladesh; Collins, Collins Church, Boyd Tweedy and R. S. Hullum who will offer special music; and Biloxi, First Church, Tommy Starks who is associate professor of Christian missions and world religions at New Orleans Seminary.

Leaders announced for Senior Adult Retreats

Typical of the leadership provided during two Senior Adult Retreats at Gulfshore in May are Billy E. Simmons, Beverly Tinnin, and Jack Washington, pictured here.

Simmons is associate professor of New Testament and Greek at New Orleans Seminary. Tinnin is pastor of First Church, Meridian. Washington is a researcher in data development in the Research Division of the Home Mission Board.

In filling their responsibilities at Gulfshore, Simmons will be leading the doctrinal study in a general conference during the retreat to be held May 17-21.

During that same retreat Tinnin will serve as Bible study leader during the morning and will preach during one of the evening worship services.

Washington will be leading a Senior Adult Leadership Conference during the retreat scheduled May 24-28. Until



BYW banquet will feature president of WMU, SBC

Baptist Young Women will see and hear the president of Woman's Missionary Union for the Southern Baptist Convention, Dorothy Sample, at the annual BYW Banquet, Monday evening, March 22, at 5:30 p.m. The BYW will also meet other WMU convention program guest at the banquet.

Sample, wife and mother of three children, will be featured in March, Contempo. She lives in Flint, Mich., but was born in Alabama. Her husband, Richard, is an educator and a bivocational pastor. She has five earned degrees and until her election as national president, was a psychological counselor at a local clinic.

Dot believes strongly in missions and has been greatly involved in the Michigan WMU on the state, associational and local levels.

The banquet begins at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall at First Baptist Church, Columbus. Following the banquet, the BYW will attend the first session of the WMU annual meeting. Reserved seating at the convention will be available for those who attend the banquet.

Mrs. Robert (Dorothy) Gilbert, BYW president, First Baptist Church, Columbus, will be responsible for local arrangements. Members of the BYW at the host church will assist in the preparations.

Cost of the banquet is \$4 per person and reservations must be made by mail before Friday, March 19. The reservation fee is not refundable after March 19. Send to Marilyn Hopkins, BYW Banquet, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205. Give name of church; number attending; amount enclosed; person sending reservation. Please make checks payable to Woman's Missionary Union.

A special Campus BYW cost of \$3 will allow many of the CBYW in the area to attend.

SS meet will train 8.5 by '85 representatives

The Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department will host an 8.5 by '85 Representative Training Meeting February 26-27 at the Medical Center Holiday Inn in Jackson.

The training session will prepare selected representatives to go back into the associations and serve in interpreting, promoting, and correlating reports for the 8.5 by '85 emphasis.

8.5 by '85 means eight and one-half million persons enrolled in Sunday Schools by 1985. The Mississippi enrollment goal is 385,000 persons enrolled in Sunday Schools by 1985.

The 8.5 by '85 Representative Training Meeting is the beginning of the upward push toward the attainment of the 1985 goal.

Needed: staffers for Garaywa

Mature Christian young women are being sought for positions on the staff during summer camp at Camp Garaywa. The camp for girls is "dedicated to teaching missions to G.A.s and Acteen girls" in Mississippi. 1,900 attended camp there in 1981.

Camp director D. P. Smith is seeking 31 young women for the following positions: unit leaders (2); lifeguards (3); nurse; recreation director; cabin counselors (18); music director; trading post worker; crafts (2); and office worker.

Camp dates will be June 2-Aug. 6. For more information and applications contact Miss D. P. Smith, Camp Director, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

Editorials . . .

What about liquor advertising?

While the entire Mississippi Senate was considering whether or not to lift the ban on the advertising of alcohol, U.S. District Judge Dan Russell, said that he knew the answer already and that such advertising could not be denied.

The First Amendment to the Constitution says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." The 14th Amendment makes the same conditions binding on the states.

Russell used the freedom of speech statement for his basis.

Freedom of Speech

So the state can make no law restricting the freedom of speech. We would all agree with that and fight for it. In this case, however, a situation is being established wherein everyone is

free to talk about and promote something that is illegal.

Alcohol illegal in Mississippi? It flows almost as freely as the waters of the Pearl River. Yes, but it is illegal. It is only by virtue of a local option that it can become legal in a political entity. The state, legally, is dry. And 40 counties of the 82 of the state have declared they want to stay dry. It will be tougher to maintain such a position under Judge Russell's ruling. The state attorney general has announced there will be an appeal.

Examine concept

What about the concept of promoting something that is illegal in order to preserve the freedom of speech? That could be carried to a dangerous extreme.

According to news reports, Judge Russell said that no scientific evidence exists showing a connection between an alcoholic beverage ban and moderation in consumption.

One would be hard pressed to re-

member such a scientific study ever being made. Just a little bit of cogitation, however, should be enough to convince one that the availability of anything will have a direct bearing on its use. This surely would include liquor. And as is the case with any other product that is on the market, the reason for advertising liquor is to increase the consumption of it. That is what the advertising business is all about.

Appreciation must be expressed to the Jackson Clarion-Ledger and the Jackson Daily News. These two newspapers refused to join the suit that caused the judge's ruling. Joe Neal, advertising director for the Clarion-Ledger, said, "We're not accepting liquor advertisements now, nor have we in the past, nor do I expect that we shall at any time."

Hopefully, the newspapers will not have to in the future in order to satisfy someone's interpretation of the freedom of speech.

Liquor companies should be cautioned against rushing out to throw up a lot of billboard advertising until after the appeal has been heard.

It gives one pause to think that one man has the power to overturn a state's laws. Perhaps this is as it should be in our system. It seems to leave something to be desired, however, in what has been called "government by the people." It is especially puzzling, though, in view of the fact that another man, again one person, had a different opinion and presented a completely opposite ruling in the same state. This happened when U.S. District Judge William Keady upheld the prohibition of liquor advertising because it promoted activity that was not legal. So we have two opposing rulings, one made in the north section of the state (Keady) and one in the south (Russell).

The Keady Ruling would seem to have the greater weight of reasonableness.



—Robert Shirley

Evangelism - Bible conferences are rich

Through 25 years of connections with three Southern Baptist state papers, the writer has attended many sessions of evangelism conferences. The number of years and the many attended make comparisons impossible, but the one just past at Vicksburg was as fine as there have been.

But then they are all fine. Those who are able to attend these conferences and fail to do so surely are doing themselves an injustice and passing up marvelous opportunities for spiritual enrichment.

Over the last few years in Mississippi the evangelism conferences have been combined with Bible conferences, and that has added to the richness.

For sure it is a fleeting time of five sessions spread over three days, but the content is very substantive. There is not opportunity of attending all of the conferences, of course, but the list of conference leaders always reads like a Who's Who in religious thought. This year there were Bill Hogue, Ray Robbins, Joe Tuten, Harold Bryson, Penrose St. Amant, James A. Brooks, Frank Stagg, and Glen Hinson. Then

the evangelism sessions had Harper Shannon, Hogue, Jess Moody, Robbins, Malcolm Tolbert, and Jimmy Draper.

Jess Moody I have known for more than half of my life. We were in college together. What a ministry he has had, and it has prepared him to take his place in a difficult situation. He is pastor of the First Baptist Church of Van Nuys, Calif. Having been editor of the California state paper, I know what he faces and what he has been able to accomplish. Perhaps no other man alive could have taken that place of ministry in metropolitan Los Angeles as he has done. Van Nuys is in the San Fernando Valley in the vicinity of Hollywood, and Jess has related to entertainment personalities perhaps as no one else could have. He shared his soul with us at the conference.

Quotes were too numerous to mention, but Moody pointed out that the reason that nothing is happening among the white, secular men in the United States is that nothing is happening among the white, Christian men in the United States.

He declared that the only place on earth where revival is not taking place is among the Caucasians. There is revival among the Blacks, the Hispanics, the Portuguese, and the Orientals, he said.

"We had better find out why the best known human in the world is Burt Reynolds," he noted.

I have known Bill Hogue for 20 years, but I have never heard him preach as he did at this conference. Within the background of each of us is a part of West Texas known as the Midland-Odessa area. Bill was a pastor in Odessa. I was a newspaper reporter in Midland and a volunteer song leader in a new church. We became acquainted later, however, when he was chairman of the Public Relations Advisory Committee for the Baptist General Convention of Texas and I was associate editor of the Baptist Standard.

Bill, now pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Tulsa, has been director of the Evangelism Section for the Home Mission Board. He said, "God is ready to come when we are ready for him to come. Revival is God's work. If God does not work in revival, then he must

work in judgment."

I knew Jimmy Draper's father when the elder Draper was a district missionary in Texas, and I first heard of Jimmy when he was pastor of the Del City Church in Oklahoma. I only became acquainted with him, however, after he went to Euless. He is one of the outstanding preachers among Southern Baptists and demonstrated why at this conference. Draper pointed out that "Persecution has never killed the church. Prosperity has killed the church. Don't worry about the church behind the Iron Curtain. Instead of stamping out the flame, persecution scattered the sparks." He added, "Christianity was intended to be at odds with all cultures—never to be at ease."

There was much, much more. The music, as always, was outstanding. The attendance was excellent throughout. The auditorium at First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, was continually filled.

Next year it is at First Baptist Church, Starkville. Plan to be there—DTM

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

"Wellcome to Egypt"

WELLCOME TO EGYPT said the scribble on the low yellow building. It was 11 a.m. on a Monday morning; we'd left Jerusalem at 6. For the past 15 miles our bus had been bumping along on a flat tire. The border bristled with soldiers, jeeps, telescopes—and friendly smiles, plus a rest stop and "smiling facilities." Just beyond the handsome guard at the first gate, we of the Golden Rule Travel group spied a bed of tiny pink cactus flowers. A flag of Egypt centered it; a waist-high concrete wall surrounded it. Quickly a bunch of us set our plastic lunch bags on the wall, and dug into them. Ah, here was a tomato and there a cucumber, a boiled egg, a hard roll, some apple juice. Fierce cold winds blew away the warmth of the bright sun. We didn't look too glamorous, I suspect, bundled in coats and scarves and swallowing that picnic lunch mixed with swirling dust.

A blue building, marked CAFETERIA had outdoor tables on the sand, sheltered by umbrellas and palms. At the CAFETERIA's thatched roof stand, Ruth Richardson and I bought hot tea, strong and bitter.

In the line of tourists we waited to get our passports back. And waited. Four hours. At 3 we set off in a tall, narrow green bus. Once we got a glimpse of the white-capped turquoise Mediterranean, and then we were plunging into the Sinai Desert again, through mountains of sand, past camels and tents, past a woman walking with a jar of water on her head. Rusty tanks stacked by the roadside were reminders of a bygone war. An occasional hole of water and clump of palm trees zipped by. Dwellings in the distance seemed to be made of bundles of sticks, children playing beside them.

At the Suez Canal a large white vessel was pulling away from the dock. Night was near and we had missed the day's last big ferryboat. Omar, our guide, said he'd find another way, so we lined up forlornly—but expectantly—on the bank of the canal.

Swarms of small boys (maybe 10 years old) started shifting our suitcases from bus to rough wooden dock. Each boy could carry four bags—one in each hand and two on his head! Their suits, some with patches, looked like cotton pajamas. One boy stopped to rub the muscles in his arms. No

wonder: My suitcase was the smallest of the lot, and it wasn't exactly lightweight. I marveled—as I wondered how much (or how little) those boys would be paid for that hard work.

A small craft approached from the other side. So many people got off it made me dizzy to watch. Men with black beards wore long black robes, and black scarves around their heads. Some men wore grey robes, or white cotton ones. A few wore western garb. A beautiful Arab woman in a long black embroidered dress stood smiling, a case of carrots on her head.

This boat must be our hope, I thought, for the boys began pitching bags onto its canvas top, and jillions of Egyptians started scrambling aboard. It was a sort of triangular wooden boat, with plank benches flanking a threadlike aisle. Canvas awnings could be rolled down over the open sides, but the sun had gone; only an afterglow was reflected from the minarets on the opposite bank. I eased down the slippery metal ramp and jumped over the 3-foot stretch of water between boat and bank. With Tom and John balancing my elbows I got down the four steps (like a stile) to the floor. Others behind me were leaping to the running board (like old-fashioned cars had) that stuck out all around the outside edge of the boat, and then climbing over the railing at bench-top level. Tom and John were shouting, "Hurry, hurry!" Nobody wanted to be left on the bank. All 78 of us, carrying purses, cameras, and hand luggage, got on, and I wouldn't dare say how many Egyptians. They even stood outside on the running board. I was standing in the aisle, but didn't worry about falling. There was no place to fall. I still clung to my \$2 bottle of water I had bought in Jerusalem.

As the boat pulled away, boys were still pitching suitcases toward its roof. "Ruth," I asked, "are you still watching your suitcase?"

"No," she said. "I've decided not to worry about it."

In five or ten minutes we'd crossed the deep green strip of water and were watching women cook their suppers on open fires by a railroad track. We rushed toward another bus. It was still a long way to Cairo.

"Was that not practicing faith?" I thought. "We believed that overcrowded vehicle would take us across, or we'd never have gotten on it. It could easily have sunk; someone could have fallen overboard; or a knife stuck in somebody's back. But if we trust in Jesus as our ticket of salvation, we can know with assurance we will reach the destination we are seeking at the end of the way (John 14:1-3). And for the journey he is our Guard and our Guide."

Why is it just Mississippi?

One could eventually begin to grow weary of what finally seems to be harassment at the hands of the government. For one who has felt the sting of the government's whip as a postage phasing operation was ceased abruptly, it all begins to wear thin.

It sometimes seems to be a matter of kick the one who's down while he's down. Mississippi trails the nation in personal income, and it has been singled out to feel the government's wrath in more than one area. For instance, it is one of nine states that have been tagged to be the scape goats in the voting rights act that should apply nationwide if it is to be applicable at all.

Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran has tried to have this condition alleviated and perhaps he will have some success.

In another of the government's crusades, however, Mississippi alone is left to bear the brunt of the federal acrimony. No matter how guilty identical operations in other states may be, only Mississippi is punished. That is in the matter of the loss of tax exemption

for private schools determined to be practicing racial discrimination. The administration has wavered on that issue in recent days. First the administration decided that it would lift the penalty resulting in loss of tax exemption for religious schools even though the schools might not adhere to the non-discrimination policy. That is, the penalty was to be lifted everywhere but in Mississippi. U.S. District Judge George L. Hart said Mississippi schools are to suffer regardless of any policy relaxation afforded the rest of the country.

Mississippi Congressman Trent Lott had been instrumental in having the relaxation made possible, then his own state was denied the benefits.

Actually, the discrimination condition was enforced only in Mississippi anyway because the Congress has refused to let the Internal Revenue Service use federal money to police the policy—everywhere except in Mississippi. A Mississippi parent won a suit which was tried in a Washington, D. C. court and which instructed the IRS to enforce the policy in Mississippi. The

suit should have applied only to the school in which it was determined that discrimination was practiced or it should have applied nationwide. The determination of racial discrimination should be made school by school.

So when the administration set about to relax its policy concerning tax exemption loss in church schools, it was told by the court that such a condition was fine everywhere except in Mississippi. That in itself is not only discriminatory but also hypocritical.

Now, no one who gives reasonable consideration to the situation would want to support racial discrimination. It is abhorrent on the face of it. But how does one go about convincing the government (the court and IRS) that there is no such discrimination?

It is understood that when we are wrong as a nation or as states or as individuals we need someone to protect us from ourselves, and perhaps a U.S. district judge can do that. When it is acknowledged, however, that the entire nation has some troubled spots, one wonders why it is that only Missis-

siippi has to bear the burden for those troubles.

Consider the school at Clarksdale Baptist Church. Its tax exemption is being threatened. It is an integrated school. It has minority students. It has no black students. None have applied. Yet it has not followed the guidelines established in Washington for determining how to tell if a school in Mississippi is not discriminating racially. It has recruited no black students. It recruits no students at all. Its classes are full without recruiting being necessary. It has no black members on its board of trustees. The trustees are elected from the church membership, and there are no black members. The school could go out and recruit some black students to enroll, but it has never recruited at all. It could close its doors, and that would be the simple solution. But the school feels it is providing an evangelical witness as well as a quality education.

So what to do? There seems to be no answer. But Sen. Cochran and Congressman Lott are to be commended for trying.

Letters To The Editor

Mission groups needed

Editor:

I am writing concerning the possibility of youth groups coming from the churches in your state on a mission trip to our church this coming summer.

We are in process of taking the gospel to every home in our county, Lorrain County. We would like to have several youth groups come. Besides

surveying, they could do backyard Bible clubs, revival services, puppetry, etc. We expect the group to work hard.

If you know of churches that are wanting to send their youth groups on a mission trip this summer, please inform them of our need.

Thank you very much.
Howard Garrison
Minister of Music/Education
Chestnut Ridge Baptist Church
38550 Chestnut Ridge Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035

Hi! We're partners!

Editor:

As a volunteer worker in pediatrics in a large Baptist hospital, I was approached by the head nurse with the request that I spend some time each day with Tony, an 11-year-old-boy who, when crossing the highway, had been hit by a large truck. For weeks he had lain in a coma, seemingly unaware of all that went on around him. Tony's head was almost completely swathed with bandages. His legs were in traction, and he had other injuries.

The instructions from the head nurse were that I talk to him and tell him stories just as though he could hear and understand everything that I said. To watch his inert form as I tried to speak with enthusiasm was hard to do. But each day I approached his hospital bed with determination.

I began each session with "Hello, Tony! I'm Smitty! We're Partners!" The next half hour would be spent in telling stories, singing a few songs

with my untrained voice, reading the Bible, having prayer, and carrying on a one-sided animated conversation with Tony. Finally one day, I began again with my introduction "Hello, Tony! I'm Smitty! We're Partners!" To my surprise came the welcome response "Hello, Smitty! I'm Tony! We're Partners." With a thankful heart, I hurried to get the head nurse. She sent for his doctors. I quietly bowed my head and prayed. "Thank you, God, for letting me be your partner in helping Tony."

Mrs. Jessie Smith Graham
Independence

Prayers for convention

Editor:

Time has come to set in motion prayer plans for the New Orleans Southern Baptist Convention.

Thank you for being an encouragement and a help in implementing these plans. We will rely on you again to give prayer support and vocal support wherever you can to our prayer plans for the 1982 convention.

Most of our coordinators have been selected and are on the job. I am writing this week to all Executive Secretaries, State Paper Editors, State Convention Presidents, and Prayer Coordinators.

I am encouraging you and all others to go to your 1981 SBC Annual and cut out (or have copied) pages 412-417 and use these lists as your prayer list on a regular basis.

Your name will be taken before the Lord many times in many places over

the next months. Let's pray for each other!

Though the state of urgency and concern is not as great regarding the 1982 convention as in 1981, this does not give reason to relax our prayers.

I am enclosing an information sheet of the general plans for the Prayer Mobilization endeavor.

If you have input, suggestions, or requests, please do not hesitate to let me know.

God Bless You,

Jack Taylor

Prayer Coordinator,

SBC New Orleans

System of hypotheses

Editor:

There are many genres of plants and animals consisting of variegated species; but there is no scientific proof whatsoever that any genus of animal or plant life has ever evolved into a different genus. The theory of organic evolution, therefore, is nothing more than a pyramid of presumption that begins with a hypothesis and ends with a guess.

Proponents of the theory of evolution, with their sophisticated artists' conceptions of "ape-men" in books and magazines, create the false impression that actual skeletons of "missing links" between the ape and man have been found. Please consider the following facts:

1. The "Heidelberg Man" was based on one jaw.
2. The "Peking Man" was based on one tooth.
3. The "Java Man" was based on a

cranial cap, a thigh bone, and a few teeth found on the bed of a Javanese river. There is no conclusive evidence that all the fragments came from the same creature.

4. In 1953, British scientists proved that the "Piltdown Man" was a deliberate hoax.

The theory of evolution is not real science (knowledge). It is as absurd as any pseudo-science that ever masqueraded in the name of science. The theory of evolution "is a system of hypotheses strung together with a million guesses. To talk about evolution as a science is to insult the intelligence (A. G. Freed).

George F. Raines

"Country Crossroads"

Editor:

Country Crossroads is on at 5 a.m. Sunday morning. If I happen to wake up I hear it. More often I don't. I called the program director, wrote him, and also sent a petition with 23 names on it. I even asked if maybe he couldn't run it some other day besides Sunday and he wouldn't have the conflicts and whatever else he told me. Maybe I did too much.

Incidentally I wrote the president of the Radio and Television Commission, Jimmy Allen.

The program director told me it was a public service program, they had too many conflicts but also thanked me for listening. People don't let them know they're listening according to him. Running it at 5 a.m. Sunday morning is a good way to lose listeners.

Mrs. Yvonne Lawrence, Meridian

Book Review

CONCISE BIBLE HANDBOOK

(Eerdmans, 384 pp., \$9.95) This pocket-sized illustrated book-by-book guide to the Bible is a condensed version of bestseller, Eerdmans' Handbook to the Bible. A section-by-section outline of each Bible book is given; plus discussion of main themes. Line drawings and maps add to attractiveness, plus giving additional information. Charts show bird's-eye views of Old and New Testament history. This guide crams the excellent features of the larger book into a nutshell.—AWM

DO YOU EVER HAVE QUESTIONS LIKE THESE?

by Margaret Taliaferro (Doubleday-Gallie, 200 pp., \$7.95). Is there really a God? Does God love some people more than others? Are my prayers really important? Do I have to love God? In this book Margaret Taliaferro gives answers to questions like these that children often ask. It is an original and delightful book that parents and children would enjoy reading together. The author's hand-lettering and stick-figure drawings used throughout, clear language and entertaining style of expression make even complex ideas easy for children to understand—as well as adults.—AWM

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Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

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Just for the Record



ACTEENS OF HARDY BAPTIST CHURCH. (l. to r.): Becky Ward, Denine Gettys, Barbara Fly, Dawn Gettys, DeLynn Martin, and Diana Williams. This was at Grenada Lake at a combination Sunday afternoon picnic/New Member Handbook Study. Also members of the group but unable to attend and therefore not pictured are: Audrey Rogers, Melinda Tilgham, and Nancy Smart. On another day, in the Fellowship Hall, Hardy Acteens held a Mother-Daughter Careers Unlimited Fashion Luncheon. The girls portrayed various women of the Bible and current missionaries.



FIRST CHURCH, LAUDERDALE recently burned the note on its education building. The 5100 square feet contain nine permanent classrooms, a kitchen, fellowship area, and offices. The 15-year-note was retired in seven years. Pictured are Marion Green, deacon chairman; Jerry Bishop, pastor; and Guy Howard, finance chairman.



"The Fishermen," sponsored by the Baptist Student Union at Mississippi State, present a Christian witness through the medium of contemporary religious music. The group's purpose is to glorify God by sharing the Gospel through music, scripture, and testimony," said June Scoggins, associate BSU director.

The group is composed of six singers, drummer, a bass guitarist, a pianist, and a sound technician. They share Christ through concerts for worship services, retreats, youth rallies, banquets, fellowships and in school assembly programs.

More information about this group may be obtained from The Fishermen, Baptist Student Union, Drawer BU, Mississippi State, Ms. 39762. The Fishermen are, seated, left to right: Gay Harris, Ruth Carmen Fisher, Teresa Nail, Laury Lawrence, Peggy Green, and standing: Peyton Rawls, Rick Nash, Richard Golden, John Chandler, William Tyner.

Staff Changes

Arlington Heights Church, Pascagoula, has called Jim Dalrympe as minister of education and administration. He goes there from Ocean Springs, First.

Temple Church, Jackson County, has called Randy Von Kanel as pastor. He had been serving there as interim pastor.

Bailey Smith will speak in Huntsville

Bailey Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will speak at First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., Feb. 27-March 5, each evening at 7.

Smith serves as pastor of The First Southern Baptist Church of Del City, Okla., which has led the SBC in baptisms over the past eight years. He accepted an invitation from Ralph H. Langley, pastor of FBC, Huntsville to preach a revival in the North Alabama city shortly after being elected president of the convention for a second term last June in Los Angeles.

Accompanying Smith will be music evangelist, Jack Price from Garland, Texas.

Details for this series of services began to emerge during the Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles. Langley had opposed Smith's reelection as convention president and proposed the revival date as a gesture of good will. Smith accepted in the same spirit.

Cedar Grove (George-Greene) has called Bob Kirkland as pastor. Kirkland and his wife Jane and their three sons have moved to their new field of service.

Davis Odom is the new pastor of Crossgates Baptist Church near Brandon in Rankin County. He moved there from West Jackson Street Baptist Church, Tupelo, where he was assistant pastor. Odom was born in Frankfurt, Germany, where his father was stationed in the military service. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife, Lissa Jane, served one year as missionaries in Antigua, Guatemala. They have two children.

Allie McNider has resigned as minister of youth and activities at Main Street Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, and has accepted a similar position at the Edwards Road Baptist Church, Greenville, S.C.

Rusty Eason has moved to Mt. Zion Church, Northwest Association, where he will serve as minister of music and youth. He and his wife went there from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth. He had served with the Carriage Hills Church, Southaven, several years ago.

John Allen elected executive in Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (BP)—John H. Allen has been elected executive director-treasurer of the Alaska Baptist Convention, replacing Allen H. Meeks, who took medical retirement in December.

Water Oak Baptist Church, Wayne County, has been working, a member reports. During 1981 a piano and organ were purchased, wall to wall carpet installed, new pews bought for the sanctuary and new tables and chairs for the Sunday School rooms. The choir loft has been enlarged, and three choirs (adult, youth, and children) have been organized. The church gave \$411.39 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Recently, with the aid of StarTeam, a Baptist Women group, GA, and RA were organized. Water Oak Church was begun in 1956, when Leon Young was director of missions in Wayne County. "The Lord has blessed the church. Growth in number and growth, spiritually is taking place," said Mrs. William Bayne, associational WMU director and StarTeam member for Wayne County and District 3. Robert Robinson is the pastor.

Missionary News

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Carmack, missionaries to Brazil, have completed language study and arrived on the field for their first term of service (address: Caixa 375, 6400 Teresina, Piaui, Brazil). A native of Oklahoma, he was born in Altus and grew up in Hinton. The former Nancy White, she was born in Mercedes, Texas, and grew up in Mission, Texas, and Indiana, Miss. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1980.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmond B. Moses, Jr., missionaries to Bophuthatswana, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: 1241 Irving St., Queenswood, Ext. 2, Pretoria 0186, Republic of South Africa). He is a native of Orlando, Fla. The former Mary Ann Pugh of Mississippi, she was born in Columbus and grew up in a rural area near Brooksville.

Fred and Laura Dallas, missionaries to Spain, have completed language study and may be addressed at La Torna 2, Apt. 4, Tafira Alta, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain. He was born in N. C. The former Laura McCarty, she was born in Texas, and also lived in Oklahoma, Wyoming, New Mexico, Mississippi and Louisiana while growing up.

Robert and Ronnie Erwin, missionaries to Brazil, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Caixa 200, 17600 Tupã, SP, Brazil). She is from Sandersville, Miss.

Carl and Twila Lee, missionaries to Indonesia, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Jl. Melati 6, Purworejo, Kedu, Indonesia). He was born in Maverick, Texas. She was born in Texarkana, Ark., and grew up in Illinois, Texas and Mississippi.

Curtis and Deanie Ferrell, missionaries to Ecuador, have arrived on the field to begin language study (address: Casilla 4724, Quito, Ecuador). He was born in Montgomery, Ala., and grew up in Argentina, where his parents were Southern Baptist missionaries. She is from Jackson.

David and Ollie Mae Mayhall, missionaries to Liberia, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Box 712, Magee, Miss. 39111). They are natives of Mississippi.

Donald and Rose McCain, missionaries to Portugal, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: c/o Norman Harrell, Apartado 67, 6651 Matosinhos Codex, Portugal). He was born in Greenville, Miss. She was born in Eupora.

Thomas and Marilyn Nabors, Baptist representatives to Israel, have returned to the field (address: P. O. Box 19293, Jerusalem, Israel). He is a native of Smithville, Miss., and she is from Missouri.

Cliff Temple men add "strength to missions"

By W. G. Dowdy, pastor
Cliff Temple, Natchez

On January 24, Baptist Men's Day was observed in our Southern Baptist Churches and it was indeed a great day at Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Natchez (Adams). The day began with a breakfast at 7 a.m. attended by the Royal Ambassadors and Baptist Men. M. A. Goldman, Brotherhood director, and Gene Bobo, R. A. director, reported a good attendance.

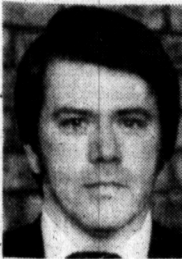
In the morning worship service the all men's choir lifted their voices in praise singing "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus." Gene Bobo, Robert Huff, and John Gillespie brought inspiring talks on love, tithing, and mission work in Sunday School and Church Training.

Allen, who joined the staff of the Alaska Baptist Convention in 1976, has been director of missions and evangelism. Previously he was assistant director of the department of church extension, HMB.

Names in the News

Mrs. Delores Fine Turnage, mother of Mrs. Jimmy L. Barrentine, missionary to Paraguay, died Feb. 2. Mrs. Barrentine, the former Joan Turnage, is currently in the States (address: c/o C. W. Turnage, Box 68, Crystal Springs, Miss. 39059), her hometown. Her husband was born in Magee, Miss., and also lived in Pascagoula and Crystal Springs, Miss. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975.

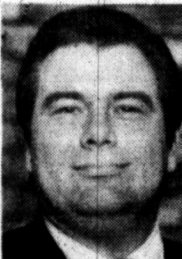
Baynard F. Fox, Dallas, Tex., 71, the first state annuity representative of the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, died January 30 after a lengthy illness. A native of Kentucky, Fox became the first annuity representative in his home state in 1946. Two years later he became the Board's regional representative for all states east of the Mississippi River. In 1964 he went to Dallas, the home office of the Annuity Board, where he became the first director of the life and health benefits department. Two years prior to his retirement in 1976, he became director in the development division for research and training.



Rice



Griffin



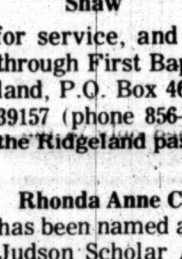
Rowan



Ross

First Baptist Church, Ridgeland licensed L. R. Shaw, Jr. and Horace Ross to the gospel ministry, Sunday morning, Jan. 24.

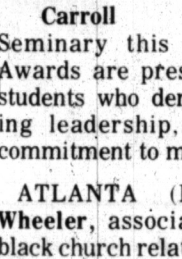
Two other men in the Ridgeland church, Sherman Rice, Wayne Rowan, have been ordained and Greg Griffin has been licensed to the ministry. These five are available for service, and may be contacted through First Baptist Church, Ridgeland, P.O. Box 466, Ridgeland, Miss. 39157 (phone 856-6139). Ed Griffin is the Ridgeland pastor.



Shaw

Rhonda Anne Carroll of Pascagoula has been named a winner of the Rice-Judson Scholar Award by Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Carroll, graduate of Mississippi College is among 20 persons from 12 states to receive the \$500 award. The daughter of Mrs. Evelyn Carroll, she plans to enter Southern Seminary this fall. Rice-Judson Awards are presented to incoming students who demonstrate outstanding leadership, scholarship, and commitment to ministry.



Carroll

ATLANTA (BP)—Edward L. Wheeler, associate director of the black church relations department for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, was appointed executive director of Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta, effective Jan. 1.

Fred D. Howard, native of Fulton, Miss., wrote the Bible Book Study Commentary for Jan.-March, 1982, published by Convention Press. He is a graduate of MC and New Orleans Seminary and formerly served pastors in Mississippi and Louisiana. At the present he is professor of religion and Greek and head of the department of religion at Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex. The commentary is to be used in Sunday School lesson study this quarter on Matthew, Part 2.

In the evening service, testimony was given by M. A. Goldman. I presented six certificates of appreciation for outstanding service in 1981 to Herbert Hughes, Vincent Mullins, Robert Huff, Dorpus Wilson, Ernest Hill, and M. A. Goldman.

The men of Cliff Temple contribute greatly to the church's strength in missions, community work and successful projects. Baptist Men's Day—what a blessing we received!

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Thursday, February 25, 1982

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Hurricane blows open doors of opportunity

By Bill Webb

LOS MOCHIS, Mexico (BP)—The same hurricane that battered hundreds of homes and killed dozens of people blew open doors of opportunity for Baptists in the west coast town of Los Mochis, Mexico.

"We can now have services anywhere we want," said Southern Baptist representative Mike Hull. "We are even showing Christian movies in the schools."

Southern Baptist representatives and local Baptists—working with municipal disaster relief officials—spearheaded efforts to provide shelter and food for the needy almost as quickly as the 90-mile-per-hour winds of Hurricane Lidia subsided Oct. 7.

As a result of their efforts, Baptists have been granted new opportunities to share their faith that have resulted in growing response to the gospel, according to Hull.

More than 300 persons have accepted Christ in Los Mochis and the surrounding area since the storm. Attendance at the town's two Baptist churches has nearly doubled with First Baptist running about 150 and Second Baptist about 70.

"First Baptist has three or four new missions and there are many more areas where people are asking for weekly Bible studies," Hull said.

In a recent joint service, the two churches baptized 21 new believers. At the same service, 36 Baptists committed themselves to work with the new missions and the new Christians.

Local efforts in the wake of the

storm were bolstered by \$35,000 in SBC Foreign Mission Board hunger and relief funds and by 25 Southern Baptists from California and Arizona who repaired damaged homes and churches.

The volunteers, several of whom spoke Spanish, came in two groups to do construction and share their faith by day and assist in worship services in the evenings.

Hull believes the helping attitude of local Baptists and volunteers was contagious. Instead of waiting for the government to do for them, residents of the area tried to help each other.

"When we went to a village to deliver lumber, the people came to help us find the house, stayed to help us unload the lumber and witnessed to those who were watching," he said.

Church members helped prepare and distribute 2,750 food packets to some 12,500 people and contributed tar paper, roofing, nails, wood, cement and bricks out of their own resources.

The Baptist Association of Sinaloa State, with 10 churches and 32 missions, contributed \$400 to help buy food for the needy in two outlying towns.

The mayor of Los Mochis sent city water trucks to outlying areas where people were contracting typhoid and intestinal diseases from contaminated canal water.

An American businessman in Los Mochis, Jimmy Bell, became a Christian while the first construction team was there. He donated his time, truck, ladders and tools for repair work in the outlying villages.

Spanish Baptists break out of shell of history

By Indy Whitten

SPAIN—Baptists are enjoying a new day in Spain. With persecution almost extinct, they are breaking out of their shell with determination to reach the country for Christ.

In recent months, public revivals and crusades throughout the country have brought hundreds of people to Christ. Christians have waved banners in evangelical marches in this new-found freedom. Instead of limiting the churches in their evangelistic outreach, the government has actually supported activities, making its public facilities available for crusades and even lending chairs to evangelicals.

This contrasts greatly to a history of persecution and discrimination. Two decades ago some churches were closed. Others were allowed to meet but couldn't advertise their meetings or put signs on their buildings. Opportunities for employment and education were limited and many other things open to the Spanish people in general were closed or severely limited to evangelicals. But they were happy. One of their favorite songs said, "We are a small group but we are very happy."

Now Baptists are making plans to participate openly in one of the biggest events of the year in that European country. Spanish Baptists are gearing up to saturate their country with the gospel during the World Cup soccer series in June and July. The witnessing plans during the games include showing Christian films, distributing Bibles and literature, holding special evangelistic services on off nights and sharing Christian testimonies on radio and television and in person.

Since 1978 Spanish Baptists have been involved in a five-year evangelistic plan, going from city to city encouraging believers and holding revivals. One of the most fruitful campaigns took place in Tarragona where a mission church is located. After a three-month effort there, the congregation tripled and started covering 50 percent of its budget.

The five-year plan will end this year after an evangelistic campaign on the island of La Palma in the Canary Islands. But Spanish Baptists don't plan to let their enthusiasm wane. They have set a goal of reaching 15,000 new persons by 1985, which would double their present membership.

And they are not willing to stop there. They are planning their first foreign mission effort in a joint project with Southern Baptists. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has recently moved into Equatorial Guinea and Spanish Baptists expect to send representatives soon. A Spanish Baptist committee is working on guidelines for the working relationship, requirements their missionaries should meet and the financial provisions that will be made for their missionaries.

sions that will be made for their missionaries.

At the same time, Spanish Baptists are working on a strategy for reaching Muslims in Spain. Spanish Baptists also are looking at the possibilities of helping with an international outreach in Brussels, Belgium, where more than 33,000 Spaniards live.

Twenty years ago, Spanish Baptists were a small, close-knit group and happy. Today, they are still relatively small but they cannot be happy as long as their country and world do not know Christ.

(Indy Whitten and her husband, Charles, are Mississippi missionaries to Spain, where they serve in the Canary Islands.)

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Bible Book Series

The King speaks of final judgment

By Howard E. Spell, Clinton
Matthew 25:14-46

I. The parable of the talents (25:14-30)

In the parable of the talents, Jesus continued his emphasis on the need for being alert since no one could know the time when the Son of Man would return. "For it is just like a man about to go on a journey" (25:14 NASV), he said. Those who are familiar with the parable will recall that the man going on a journey gave talents to his slaves according to each one's ability.

One slave received five talents because his owner knew he had five-talent ability and that he could administer effectively that amount. Since economic values changed so rapidly, there seems to be little point in trying to estimate the exact amount of money each slave received.

We are not told the length of time the owner was away, but during his absence two of the slaves doubled the amount they had received while the third hid his owner's money in the ground and gained nothing. The master's commendation, on his return, was identical in the case of the two who had doubled the amount given them. One had gained five talents, and the other two, but the latter received the same reward or approbation as the one who had gained five talents.

The one having hidden the money was criticized and orders given to take the one talent he had received and give it to the one who had received five talents. Some there are who are prone to find fault with the action of the owner wondering why the one talent was given to one who already had gained five talents. We sometimes refer to a person as a "go-getter" and it can be used in a derogatory sense, but it does not have to be an adverse criticism. In essence Jesus was saying the man who had gained five talents was a "go-getter" (in the best sense of the term) and he would continue in the same aggressive way. One does not need to be reminded that unused talents are quickly lost. Vigilance and a willingness to work are necessary ingredients of success. The slave who had received one talent was given an opportunity. He did not take advantage of it and lost.

What we are given by a loving Father is to be received as a trust. The size or amount is of little importance; what we do with what we have is of tremendous significance. We need to remind ourselves that five-talent accounting was not required of one who had received only one talent.

II. A word picture of the judgment (25:31-46)

Jesus had spent considerable time in talking about the destruction of Jerusalem and about the preparation needed for the parousia. Now he turns definitely to picture something about the judgment. He describes himself here as the Son of Man sitting "on his glorious throne" with all the angels with him. Before him are gathered all the nations and he separates them much as a shepherd would the sheep from the goats in his flock.

In the parable of the sheep and the goats, the former are pictured as "blessed of My Father" and the latter as "accursed of My Father." Frank Staggs (Broadman Bible Commentary, Vol. 8, p. 226) has pointed out that the son of Man did not commend those on his right hand because they had acted in a humanitarian spirit in ministering to others. They were blessed because they had so identified themselves with Christ that they had partaken of his nature and they had simply acted in keeping with their character when they had attended to physical needs of others.

When they expressed surprise and asked when they had done such things they were told: "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say unto you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of mine, even the least of them, you did it to me'" (25:40 NASV).

In like manner those separated to the left by the Son of Man were ordered to "Depart . . . into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels" (25:41 NASV). They were accursed because they had acted in keeping with their nature, a nature that definitely was not Christ-like and one which showed they had not made Christ's way of life their way.

One cannot overemphasize that this passage does not try to tell us all that we need to know nor all that the Bible has to say about the judgment. Actually here the Son of Man is not pictured so much judging the nations as in simply stating the principles of judgment which the Father had already determined.

Furthermore, we should realize that the humanitarian acts which were described were not done in order to gain salvation or approval in the judgment. Here were people whose nature had been changed; they acted in character. They did what was perfectly normal for them because they had become Christ-like.

We should also keep in mind that just as the sheep and goats were found in the same flock so today the blessed of the Father and the accursed of the Father live and work in the same world and there are times when it is not easy to distinguish between the two. But we can be thankful that the separation between the two will be made by a righteous God and not by fallible persons.

The idea of eternal punishment is a terrifying thought and one that God did not will but that man brought on himself because of his disobedience, his failure to accept the salvation which a loving God provided for all who would accept. Just as the idea of eternal punishment is a terrifying thought, so the idea of eternal life with a righteous Father is joyous for the child of God.

Pace Church marks Bud Redden Day

Pace Baptist Church in Bolivar County celebrated Bud Redden Day Feb. 14. Redden, 89, a long time member of Pace Church, and former chairman of deacons, now lives in Mesa, Ariz. He returned home for the occasion.

The pastor, W. A. Sullivan, read a tribute to him and the morning service was followed by dinner on the grounds.

Mrs. Redden died in September of last year. He now lives with his daughter. He has a son in Jackson. Redden is also former mayor of Pace.



Star men paint Village chapel

"December was a banner month in missions at Star Baptist Church," said Jimmie Harrington, pastor. The Baptist Men were involved in a mission project at the Baptist Children's Village, where they painted the inside of the chapel in a single day. Eleven men took part. Left to right: Ed Benton, John Baker, David Dyess, Jerry Cooper, Phil White, Gary Glass, Karl McGraw, Village maintenance, Ralph Little. Not pictured: Layton Byrd, Burton Butler, Eric McNair. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal was \$2,500; an offering of \$3,062 was given.



Life and Work Lesson

Gifted by the spirit

By James L. Travis

Pastoral Services

University Medical Center, Jackson

I Corinthians 12:1-11, 28-31a

This chapter begins a larger section in which Paul deals in various ways with the issue of spiritual gifts. In the process he directs specific attention to a problem in the Corinthian church, namely, the disturbance that apparently was being caused by some of the ecstatic utterances of the church members in their religious rituals. Also, he penned what is perhaps one of his better known passages, that is, the clarification of the nature of love (chapter 13).

Also, in this twelfth chapter Paul deals with the paradox of unity in diversity in this particular congregation. That important concept is universal in its application.

Also, it must be noted that Paul was not totally negative in his approach to the Corinthian Christians. True, he wrote in stern and unmistakable terms as to some of the ways in which they were not living out the ministry and mission of Jesus. However, particularly in this section, Paul commends the Corinthian Christians for the positive aspects of their faith, namely, the fact that they are all gifted.

Evaluating spiritual gifts (12:1-3): Paul's use of the term, "brethren," gives an indication that he is moving now to a different, if related, topic. That topic is "spiritual gifts." Not only the "worldly" members of this fellowship had created some problems but also the "spiritual" members.

Paul's first point was that emotionalism and religious ecstasy as well as other bizarre behavior may exist outside of the Spirit of God. He reminded them that in their former religious life apparently they had been moved to ecstatic behavior for nothing more than "dumb idols," who could make no response to them. Then Paul gives something of a criterion as to how to determine if the Spirit of God is involved in religious behavior.

From the tone of his letter, it could be inferred that some of the Corinthian Christians in moments of ecstatic outbursts were moved to the point of cursing Jesus. Whether or not that was actually the case is not as important as what Paul must mean by these phrases, "Jesus be cursed," and "Jesus is Lord." I think it would stand to reason that Paul would not suppose that merely saying the words—"Jesus is Lord"—was a sign that the Holy

Spirit was involved in that behavior. Indeed, as Jesus himself pointed out, it required much more than for a person to call him "Lord." What else is needed is some indication, some fruit, of this testimony as evidenced in the person's life.

Consequently, I think what Paul is saying is that if a person's behavior is such as to proclaim that Jesus is Lord, there is indication that the Holy Spirit is involved. To reverse that, if a person's behavior is in some way contradictory to the intent of Jesus (and in such fashion equivalent to placing a curse upon Jesus) then this could be evidence that the spirit of God was not involved. Where that leaves us is standing very much in need of the kind of "discernment" that Paul talks about a little later in this chapter.

Varieties of gifts (12:4-11): This passage is rich in its meaning. Indeed, Paul resorts to a kind of rhetorical eloquence to which he was prone in those moments when he was carried away by the truth of which he was writing. To make his point about the varieties of gifts, he plays on that phrase to point out varieties of service and varieties of working. All, however, are rooted and grow from that same Spirit, the same Lord, the same God, who inspires them all.

There are a couple of important points to be noted in this section. For example, to each person is given some manifestation of the spirit (12:7). Further, no one gift can be pointed to with arrogance and pride in order to say this is a better gift than the other. Keep in mind, however, that this is with reference to each individual. Within each individual, whatever the gift is, it is of as much value as any other gift. The reason for this is that it is the same Spirit who gives all the gifts. Originating from the same source then, each gift in terms of the individual is as valuable as another.

Relative importance of gifts in the church (12:28-31a): After his lengthy analogy of the human body as an illustration of the workings of the church, Paul returns to his listing of the various gifts. Here, however, he does rank in order of importance almost the same list that had occurred in the earlier section. The first one is that of apostles, namely, those whose task it is to evangelize and disciple persons for the kingdom of God. In descending order the list continues to include the last gift, the gift of tongues.

Paul asks a series of rhetorical ques-

tions to which the answer obviously is "no." Not all people are apostles, not all people are prophets or teachers, not all people worked miracles or possessed the gift of healings, nor do all speak with tongues. And that's all right.

However, Paul's statement, "but earnestly desire the higher gifts," must be taken very seriously for here he is not evaluating the gifts in terms of the individual person but in terms of the impact on the congregation itself.

You see, Paul is laboring with a polarity that has existed from the very dawn of time by virtue of the fact that the human creature is a social being. We are individuals to be sure. We also exist within groups. To apply that concept to this issue with which Paul is struggling here, it must be said that the gifts are of equal value in terms of each individual person and his/her own religious experience and edification. When it comes to the "common good," there is some order of importance and value. Paul is very clear that even as apostles, prophets, and teachers rank high on the list, those who speak in tongues rank the lowest. Keep in mind he is not indicting those who speak in tongues as being of less value, but he is attempting to hold in balance individual value and the collective good.

Regardless of the gift we possess from the Holy Spirit, in and of ourselves we may value this no less than anyone else's gift. If our gifts happen not to be those that are more essential in developing the common good, we do not have to feel badly about it, rather we may simply appreciate the fact that other gifts may work more adequately than ours in building up a congregation.

However, lest we still be somewhat dismayed, it needs to be said clearly and strongly: even if our spiritual gifts rank low on the list of those which build up the common good, to acknowledge that and to appreciate the difference may be one of the most important things that we can do toward that very end.

Let me be more specific. For example, if a person who has the gift of tongues can value this gift within himself or herself as being of equal worth with any other gift and at the same time appreciate the fact that it is not the most important gift in building up the church, then indeed that individual will have in this indirect fashion done much toward enhancing the common good of the congregation.

Cards retire in Colorado

By James Lee Young

DENVER (BP)—Doris and Phil Card have been impressing Colorado Southern Baptists and the rest of the Southern Baptist Convention for more than 25 years.

Combined they have 50 or more years in service to the Colorado Baptist General Convention. They retired Dec. 31, after a career in which they literally helped to birth fledgling associations of churches in Colorado and five-and-a-half states.

The Cards were the first employees of the new convention, begun 26 years ago in Denver.

Phil, church training, recreation and media director, in the first year of the convention's life, was director of every area of responsibility a state convention normally has in its structure—with the exception of Woman's Missionary Union and executive director-treasurer.

Doris was secretary to the director of cooperative missions where she has been since 1960, and has done double duty as convention recording secretary since 1967.

Phil may be best known for a weekly cartoon-caricature feature he has drawn for the Rocky Mountain Baptist since 1964. Many a person has felt he or she had finally arrived when Phil's drawing of them appeared in the "People Who Impressed Me" column of the newspaper.

For 24 years Card was state student director and he helped start work in more than 30 places in the five-and-a-half state area. The convention originally sponsored work in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, North and South Dakota and western Nebraska.

(Young edits the Rocky Mountain Baptist.)

Refugee sponsors drop to half

ATLANTA (BP)—Southern Baptists resettled only half as many refugees in 1981 as they did in 1980 although they sponsored a consistent nine percent of the total class assigned to Church World Service in both years, according to Donoso Escobar, head of the SBC Home Mission Board's refugee resettlement office in Atlanta.

Final figures for 1981 showed 2,024 persons sponsored, compared to 4,031 for 1980. The number of sponsors also dropped from 1,453 in 1980 to 722 in 1981.

Only seven Southern Baptist state conventions sponsored more refugees in 1981 than in 1980, with Ohio raising its total from 17 in 1980 to 89 in the past 12 months.

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